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WA State Department
of Ecology (SWRO)

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Rich Doenges re: NWIW SSEIS
Washington Department of Ecology
Southwest Regional Office
P. O. Box 47775
Olympia, WA 98504-7775

Dear Mr. Doenges,

The proposed Kalama Manufacturing and Marine Export Facility to build the world's largest fracked gas-to methanol refinery exporting product to China is of grave concern to me and my family, to the State of Washington and to the residents of Kalama because life on this planet is being impacted by global warming, a very real event. The methanol refinery is of concern to me personally as I own three fourplexes in Kalama and landlord to 12 families, many of which are single women and some with children. I am concerned for their health and welfare and for property values. Kalama is not a refinery city. It is a quaint waterfront town on the Columbia River with a port, light industry, small town cottage industry and surrounding Cascade outdoor recreational areas.

My professional experience since 1970 in the maritime field of international trade and transportation and as the Director of Marketing for the Port of Longview from 1991 until retirement in 2008 took me to ports all over the world. I am very familiar with most ports in the Pacific Northwest, their challenges and their good news. I believe the Port of Kalama is making a big mistake in fostering green house gas emissions (GHGs) putting the Columbia River and the global environment at risk for the economic benefit of China. For a decade the citizens of Washington have been fighting hard to keep fossil fuel exports from taking a foothold in our state and on the Columbia River. Methanol is no different and should not be permitted as was the case for coal exports.

When the current President of the United States withdrew our nation from the Paris Agreement to counter global warming, the Governor of the State of Washington along with other Governors committed to a U.S. Climate Alliance to take up the challenge to reduce GHGs. I am committed to this endeavor and fully support whatever we (the State of WA) can do to beat the clock that is ticking to keep the planet from warming 2 degrees F. The recent wildfires in CA, OR and WA have caused widespread loss of property, loss of life and irreparable damage to people's lives. Science is saying that global warming is the primary cause. The economic impact of wildfires should be considered in the evaluation of GHG emissions put out by the refinery. How can we expect the climate over the next 40 years, the lifetime of the refinery, to be any different if fossil fuel refineries are allowed to proliferate or coal fired power plants are not shuttered? No, in fact, likely worse.

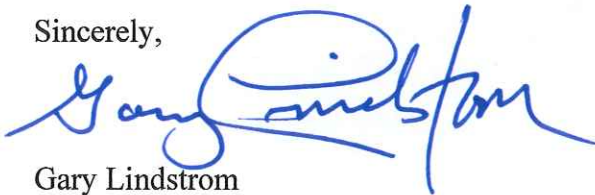
Ecology's analysis showed that the KMMEF refinery would produce 4.6 million metric tons of carbon pollution annually. It could be more, as much as two times? Proponents initially stated that the product would be used to make olefins, plastics. Then there was a serious finding that the product would really be used in the fueling of vehicles. Once the product is on board ship and departs to international waters there is no way to control its final use. China (the government) will decide the final use of valuable energy resources. In fact, it would be best for Ecology to assume that all of the 10,000 MT per day of methanol production would be used as fuel for vehicles thereby increasing GHG emissions.

From fracking, upstream emissions, plant emissions, and downstream emissions methanol exports to China should be considered too dangerous for the local environment, the Columbia River and too toxic for the planet's fragile atmosphere. Our lives are insulated from the perils of the sun by a very thin layer of atmosphere. We must do all possible to keep that thin veil intact.

I ask Ecology to find that the refinery's output of GHG's is beyond the threshold in our State's passionate commitment to fight climate change and to therefor deny the shore line permit application for KMMEF.

Thank you for the opportunity to address this vital issue before the Department of Ecology.

Sincerely,



Gary Lindstrom
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